

## Calling Student Writers in Ukraine!



The U.S. Embassy in Ukraine invites young Ukrainian writers to participate in a virtual creative writing program by the University of Iowa's International Writing Program, "**Between the Lines: Peace and the Writing Experience (BTL)**"

Selected Ukrainian student writers will join 40 students from all over the world for a two-week online program from **July 15 to July 30, 2022**. All activities will be in English and will include: synchronized writing workshops, world literature seminars, special literary events, cultural exchange, group and individual writing assignments outside of class, social media outreach and sharing

Upon the completion of the program, each participant will receive a certificate (PDF) and IWP will digitally publish the students' writing as an anthology. Participants may be able to apply for BTL follow-on microgrants, which support new projects that promote creative writing and literatures.

### Minimum Requirements

- Age 15-18 years at the time of the program (July 15-30, 2022)
- Citizens and residents of Ukraine
- Proficient in English (all activities will be conducted in English)
- Daily access to high-speed internet and a device with a camera and microphone

### Application Requirements

- Biographical Information:** Full name; residency address; date of birth; email; and phone number.
- English Writing Sample** of 6–8 pages of prose (creative fiction/nonfiction) and/or poetry in English. Critical essays (book reports, academic reports, and so forth) will not be accepted.
- English Essay** of 1-3 pages in response to the following prompt: "In our daily lives, we navigate many different roles—student, sibling, daughter, son, peer. We negotiate family, friends, religious groups, as well as class, gender, race, country, and so many other groups, adjusting the way we speak or behave to fit the demands of each encounter. As we move through the day, we work through how and why we occupy each particular role. What do you consider to be the strongest, most central aspects of your identity? What does it mean to you to be a member of (or seen as a member of) a particular group? In what way does your identity influence you as a creative writer and reader?"
- English Brief Response** of 300 words max to the following prompt: "An essential component of Between the Lines is encouraging participants to explore the unfamiliar and unknown in a safe and supportive setting. Please describe a time in your past when you had to engage with a new situation, person, or idea that initially felt uncomfortable or strange. How did you proceed? If you had the chance, what would you do the same, and what would you do differently?"
- English Brief Statement of Purpose** of 250 words max describing why writing is important to the applicant's life, and what he/she hopes to learn at BTL.

### How to apply

Email [kyivRELO@state.gov](mailto:kyivRELO@state.gov) before **March 7, 2022**. In the email, provide all of the biographical information in requirement (a). Attach the 4 writing pieces as Microsoft Word Documents. Only Microsoft Word documents (.doc or .docx) will be accepted. The Subject line of the email should read: "[Your Name] BTL Application"

All writing samples must be 12-point font, double-spaced, and have one-inch margins. Poems may be single-spaced with multiple poems per page. *\*\*Note: applications that do not follow these guidelines or that do not follow the word and page limits may be disqualified.* The final selection will be determined by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) and IWP.

### Need More Information?

Join the virtual informational session on **February 20, 2022**, for prospective applicants to learn more about this year's virtual BTL program and ask questions.

*Between the Lines 2022 Information and Q&A Session*

When: Sunday, Feb. 20, 2022, 10 - 11 AM Central Time, 6-7 PM Ukraine Time

Register in advance:

<https://uiowa.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlpde-przMqHNMkl6USWmHRux1NGRbz6b6J>